

PATENTREMARKS

Claims 86-123 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-85 have been cancelled.

Claims 86-87, 89, 91-92, and 94-99 have been amended.

Interview Summary Record Of Friday, July 30, 2004, Examiner Interview

Appreciation is expressed for the telephonic interview conducted on Friday, July 30, 2004, between Examiner Shin and Sam G. Campbell, Applicants' attorney. During the interview, the pending claims were discussed, and in particular, independent claim 86. While no specific agreement was reached during the interview with regard to the allowability of the pending claims, the undersigned believes this paper is in harmony with the positions expressed during the interview.

Interview Summary Record Of Friday, August 13, 2004, Examiner Interview

Appreciation is expressed for the telephonic interview conducted on Friday, August 13, 2004, between Examiner Shin and Sam G. Campbell, Applicants' attorney. During the interview, the pending claims were discussed, and in particular, claims 86 and 87. While no specific agreement was reached during the interview with regard to the allowability of the pending claims, the undersigned believes this paper is in harmony with the positions expressed during the interview.

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Formal Matters

The Examiner has requested that Applicants identify the specification's support for the term "storage virtualization engine" (SVE). Applicants respectfully submit that support for this term can be found in a number of places within the specification of the present application. As will be appreciated, an SVE of the present invention can be seen in Fig. 6, which depicts a number of such SVEs (depicted in Fig. 6 as SVE devices 600(1)-(N)) coupled to one another in an example configuration, as well as to a number of hosts (hosts 620(1)-(N)) and storage devices (storage drives arrays/subsystems 630(1)-(N)). A description of these elements, and in particular, of the SVEs depicted therein, is provided in the written description at p. 39, line 22, through p. 45, line 10. Particularly, a discussion of an example SVE's properties are provided at p. 39, line 23, through p. 40, line 2.

Another, more detailed example of an SVE is given in connection with Fig. 7, which depicts an SVE that includes two multi-port Fibre Channel controllers (referred to therein as daughterboards), processing capabilities (e.g., system processor 773 and various FPGAs) and communication capabilities (e.g., ethernet port 780 and RS232 serial port 785). A discussion of this example SVE can be found at p. 45, line 11, through p. 52, line 27.

As will be appreciated, the figures depict example SVEs as having multiple multi-port controllers. The figures also depict example SVEs having communication capabilities. Various elements (hosts, storage subsystems, other SVEs and the like) can then be coupled to one another by coupling those elements to one or more SVEs. Applicants respectfully submit that the descriptions provided in the written description of the present application are thus sufficient to meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112.

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For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the invention, as claimed in independent claim 86, is properly described by the written description of the present application. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 86, as well as claims 87-123 which dependent therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5084.

<p>> CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION <</p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No (703) 872-9306 on <u>August 17, 2004</u>.</p> <p><u>Samuel G. Campbell III</u></p> <p>Type or print name of person signing certification</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Signature</p>
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Respectfully submitted,

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